IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of extracting a fingerprint from a media signal, the method comprising:

~~the steps of~~ extracting from said media signal a sequence of samples of a given perceptual property of the signal~~, and~~;

deriving from said sequence a binary sequence constituting said fingerprint~~, characterized in that the method comprises the steps of~~:;

subjecting the sequence of property samples to an auto-correlation function to obtain a sequence of auto-correlation values;

comparing said auto-correlation values with respective thresholds; and

representing the results of said comparisons by respective bits of the fingerprint.

2. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of subjecting the sequence of property samples to an auto-correlation function comprises correlating a sub-sequence of property samples with the complete sequence of property samples.

3. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of subjecting the sequence of property samples to an auto-correlation function further includes down-sampling the sequence of auto-correlation values to obtain a desired number of auto-correlation values.

4. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of deriving from said media signal a sequence of perceptual property values comprises dividing an audio signal into sub-bands and computing the energies of said audio sub-bands.

5. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of deriving am said media signal a sequence of perceptual properties comprises dividing an image into blocks and computing the luminances of said image blocks.

6. (Currently amended) An apparatus for extracting a fingerprint from a media signal, the apparatus comprising:

means for deriving from said media signal a sequence of samples of a given perceptual property of the signal; ~~, and means for deriving from said sequence a binary sequence constituting said fingerprint, characterized in that the apparatus comprises:~~

means for subjecting the sequence of property samples to an auto-correlation function to obtain a sequence of auto-correlation values;

means for comparing said auto-correlation values with respective thresholds; and

means for representing the results of said comparisons by respective bits of the fingerprint.

7. (Currently amended) ~~computer program comprising instructions to cause a programmable device to perform the steps of~~ machine readable medium tangibly storing instruction data to cause a machine to:

derive ~~deriving~~ from a received media signal a sequence of samples of a given perceptual property of the signal;

subject ~~subjecting~~ the sequence of property samples to an auto-correlation function to obtain a sequence of auto-correlation values;

compare ~~comparing~~ said auto-correlation values with respective thresholds; and

represent ~~representing~~ the results of said comparisons by respective bits of a fingerprint.

8. (New) An system for extracting a fingerprint from a media signal, the system comprising:

a sampler to extract from said media signal a sequence of samples of a given perceptual property of the signal;

an auto-correlator to subject the sequence of property samples to an auto-correlation function to obtain a sequence of auto-correlation values; and

a comparator to:

compare said auto-correlation values with respective thresholds, and

represent the results of said comparisons by respective bits of the fingerprint.

9. (New) The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the auto-correlator is to correlate a sub-sequence of property samples with the complete sequence of property samples.

10. (New) The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the auto-correlator is to down-sample the sequence of auto-correlation values to obtain a desired number of auto-correlation values.

11. (New) The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the sampler is to divide an audio signal into sub-bands and computing the energies of said audio sub-bands.

12. (New) The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the sampler is to divide an image into blocks and computing the luminances of said image blocks.